

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 010119
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /031 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:DVKILLION:JK
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
AF/WTWMSMITH

-----151831Z 056934 /65

R 151800Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANJUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 010119

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, GA, US

SUBJECT:GAMBIAN TOURISM DELEGATION MEETING WITH AF
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

REFS: (A) BANJUL 0040; (B) 76 BANJUL 1617; (C) 76 BANJUL
1584

1. AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE MET JANUARY 13 WITH
GAMBIAN MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM B. L. K.
SANYANG AND DELEGATION VISITING WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK TO
PROMOTE TOURISM. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEELYE OPENED
MEETING, WHICH SCHAUFEELE LATER JOINED. AF/W DIRECTOR AND
AF/W COUNTRY OFFICER ALSO ATTENDED.

2. SEELYE EXTENDED WELCOME TO THE MINISTER AND DELEGATION
AND INQUIRED ABOUT STATE OF TOURISM INDUSTRY IN THE GAMBIA
AND EXPECTATION OF BOOSTING NUMBER OF TOURIS FROM US
ONE. MINISTER SANYANG FELT THAT GAMBIA PROBABLY HAS
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ADEQUATE BASIC FACILITIES TO HANDLE DOUBLE THE PRESENT
NUMBER OF 24,000 TOURISTS PER YEAR, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT
TO ATTRACT MORE AFFLUENT AMERICAN TOURISTS SOMEWHAT MORE
LUXURIOUS HOTELS MIG;T BE IN ORDER. ALL AGREED THAT THE
NEW ABC TV SERIES BASED ON ALEX HALEY'S BEST SELLER

"ROOTS" WOULD HELP ATTRACT AMERICANS TO THE GAMBIA. PERHAPS CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM US MIGHT BE ARRANGED AS NOW DONE FOR SCANDINAVIAN TOURISTS WHO PRESENTLY FORM MAJORITY OF VISITORS. MINISTER SANYANG NOTED THAT GAMBIA GOVERNMENT NOW CONDUCTING STUDY TO DETERMINE WAYS OF ENSURING THAT EXPANDED NUMBERS OF TOURISTS DO NOT RPT NOT HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON TRADITIONAL SOCIAL FABRIC AND MORALS OF HIS NATION.

3. SEELYE REFERRED TO OPPORTUNITY HE HAD TO MEET GAMBIA PRESIDENT JAWARA LAST SEPTEMBER DURING LATTER'S BRIEF STOP IN NEW YORK ON WAY TO MEXICO.

4. ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELER JOINED MEETING AND CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR GAMBIA TOURISM INDUSTRY, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO FACILITIES, SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS FOR AMERICANS, AND EXPANSION IMPACT OF PUBLICITY SURROUNDING "ROOTS."

5. MEETING ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH HOSTED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELER. AUTHOR OF "ROOTS" ALEX HALEY WAS ALSO A LUNCHEON GUEST. LUNCHEON DISCUSSION CENTERED ON POSSIBLE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN THE GAMBIA WHICH MIGHT BE DEVELOPED BASED ON SPECIAL INTEREST GENERATED BY "ROOTS" AND THE TV SERIES. SCHAUFELER AT CLOSE OF LUNCH EMPHASIZED TO MINISTER SANYANG AND PARTY OUR PLEASURE AT RECEIVING GAMBIA DELEGATION, NOTING IT UNFORTUNATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTACT NOT GREATER. SCHAUFELER ASSURED VISITORS OF WARM, FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GAMBIA, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO EXPANDED EXCHANGES IN THE FUTURE.

6. AFTER LUNCHEON, ALEX HALEY MET WITH MINISTER AND SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION IN AF/W TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL SOME OF HIS PROPOSALS FOR ATTRACTING AMERICAN TOURISTS TO THE GAMBIA.

7. FYI: FOLLOWING DAY DELEGATION SPOKESMAN CONATEH TELEPHONED AF/W COUNTRY OFFICER TO EXPRESS MINISTER'S PERSONAL THANKS AND THAT OF ENTIRE DELEGATION. CONATEH SAID ALL WERE APPRECIATIVE OF FACT THAT SENIOR STATE DEPT. OFFICIALS HAD TAKEN TIME TO EXTEND SUCH COURTESIES TO GROUP. AF/W WILL AIR POUCH PHOTOS TAKEN AT LUNCHEON TO EMBASSY BANJUL. END FYI. KISSINGER

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:DVKILLION:LFS

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

-----250344Z 028749 /70

R 242240Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 010119 ACTION BANJUL 15 JAN QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 010119

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 BANJUL 40, 76 BANJUL 1617
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SAS ID: 3586648
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAMBIAN TOURISM DELEGATION MEETING WITH AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, GA, US, (SEELYE, TALCOTT W), (SCHAUFLELE, WILLIAM E JR)
To: BANJUL
Type: TE
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